

Weekly Status & Information Report: September 4 - 7, 2012

1. Official City Meetings Scheduled the Week of September 10, 2012:

- City Council meeting, Monday, September 10, 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium (closed session vote at 5:30 p.m.)
- Facade Advisory Board meeting, Tuesday, September 11, 7 p.m. in the Hydrangea Room
- Nuclear-Free Takoma Park Committee meeting, Tuesday, September 11, 7:30 p.m. in the Rose Room
- Emergency Preparedness Committee meeting, Thursday, September 13, 8:30 a.m. in the Hydrangea Room
- Recreation Committee meeting, Thursday, September 13, 7 p.m. in the Hydrangea Room

All meetings are held in the Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue, and are open to the public unless noted otherwise. (City Clerk)

2. Goodbye, Barb!: City Manager Barb Matthew's last day with the City of Takoma Park is today. Monday she leaves on a great vacation and, on October 1st, she reports for duty as City Manager of Rockville. Deputy City Manager Suzanne Ludlow will serve as Acting City Manager until the City Council appoints a new City Manager and that person begins work. (Deputy City Manager)

3. New Police Chief is on the Way: Alan Goldberg has been chosen as the next Takoma Park Police Chief. He begins on October 1. Alan Goldberg has had a distinguished career in law enforcement, including 30 years with the Montgomery County Police Department, and is looking forward to working with the City of Takoma Park. A copy of the News Release concerning the appointment is attached. (Deputy City Manager)

4. Sidewalk Repairs: The ADA compliance project which is repairing sidewalks will be completing the work on Columbia Avenue next week and then will move to Poplar Avenue. Residents have been provided a notice about the work. Sidewalk sections scheduled for removal are marked in white paint. For additional information, please contact the Public Works Director at 301-891-7615. (Public Works)

5. Update - Washington Adventist Hospital's Certificate of Need Application: A recommendation to deny Washington Adventist Hospital's request to relocate from its current Takoma Park campus to the White Oak area in Silver Spring was issued on Tuesday by Maryland Health Care Commissioner Barbara Gill McLean. A final decision on the hospital's request will be made by the full Commission on October 18. The recommendation has been posted on our website at <http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/wah/>. The City Council will be meeting next week to review the recommendation and discuss how it wishes to proceed. (Housing and Community Development)

6. Reminder - Traffic Restrictions Now in Place Affecting Ritchie Avenue, Hilltop Road and Park Valley Road: New restrictions prohibit traffic turning onto Park Valley Road and Hilltop Road from Sligo Creek Parkway between 6:30 a.m. and 9:00 a.m., and from accessing those same streets going southbound between 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Notification signs have been installed near the intersections of Sligo Creek Parkway and Park Valley Road, Hilltop Road and Geneva Avenue, and Hilltop Road and Mississippi Avenue.

In addition, traffic restrictions will affect access to Ritchie Avenue and Hilltop Road in the City. The restrictions prohibit right turns onto Ritchie Avenue from vehicles traveling east on Maple Avenue between 6:30 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. Left turns from Ritchie Avenue southbound onto Maple Avenue will be restricted between 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Right turns from Geneva Avenue onto Hilltop Road will be prohibited between 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. There is no longer access to Sligo Creek Parkway from Mississippi Avenue and Piney Branch Road between 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m., weekdays. The restrictions are effective Monday through Friday. (Public Works)

7. Bedtime Stories: Our monthly Bedtime Stories program for babies, toddlers, preschoolers and their grown-ups will take place on Monday, September 10 at 7:00 p.m. No registration needed for this half-hour program. (Library)

8. Friends Reading Group: The Friends of the Library Reading Group will discuss "The Secret Agent" by Joseph Conrad on Tuesday, Sept. 11 at 7:30 p.m. in the Azalea Room in the Community Center. All are welcome. (Library)

9. The New Ave City Council Tour - September 12: The Planning Division has organized a tour of New Hampshire Avenue for the City Council on Wednesday, September 12. Planning Staff will discuss City-led economic development initiatives as well as re-introduce the key objectives of the New Hampshire Avenue Corridor Concept Plan and its implementation, including the Ethan Allen Gateway Streetscape Project. (Housing and Community Development)

10. Film Screening and Discussion - September 13: We are Takoma and the Karabakh Foundation present a free screening of "The Fortress," a film by critically acclaimed Azerbaijani director Shamil Najafzade on Thursday, September 13 at 7:00 p.m. in the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium. The film runs for approximately 80 minutes and will be followed by a Q&A with the director. "The Fortress," selected to represent Azerbaijan in the Foreign Language Film category at the 81st Academy Awards, tells the story of a film crew that arrives in a remote border village in the mountains of Azerbaijan to shoot a historical account of war, heroism, and love when a real war erupts. The film is in the Azerbaijani language with English subtitles. www.facebook.com/TakomaParkMD/events. (Housing and Community Development)

11. "Eyes on the Borders" Opening Reception - September 14: The Arts and Humanities Commission and the Art Latin American Collective Project, in celebration of Latino Heritage Month, are pleased to present the work of nine artists from the Pampas, Andes, Amazon, the Atlantic and Pacific coasts and the Caribbean. "Eyes on the Border" opens on Friday, September 14 with a reception in

the Atrium Gallery from 6 p.m to 9 p.m. and will be on display in the Galleries at the Takoma Park Community Center through November 4. Free admission. www.facebook.com/TakomaParkMD/events/ (Housing and Community Development)

12. "On Identity in the Arts: What Does It Mean to be Latino?" - September 14: Please join us next Friday as we hear from Cuban-American artist and blogger Lenny Campello discuss what it means to be a Latino artist. Event held in conjunction with the opening of the exhibit, "Eyes on the Border." Lecture begins at 8 p.m. and will be held in the Takoma Park Community Center. Free admission. www.facebook.com/TakomaParkMD/events (Housing and Community Development)

13. Petites Chansons: Bienvenue! Join Madame Marie on Saturday, September 15 at 10:30 a.m. for another season of French rhymes and songs in a program that is unique in our area. We ask participants to register just once for the season so we can keep you informed of the program dates. To register, please go to: www.takomapark.info/library/registration.html or call us at 301-891-7259. (Library)

14. Basketball Skills Clinic is Coming!: A Basketball Skills Clinic will commence on Saturday, September 15 at Takoma Park Recreation Center. The time of the Skills Clinic is 10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. The program is being directed by Frank Simpson, Athletic Director and Basketball Coach of Don Bosco High School. Youth will learn the fundamentals of basketball and gain a keen insight on the game. Register today. Few spaces remain. For more information contact John Webster at 301-891-7289. Come and join in the fun with us. (Recreation)

15. Fourth Annual Play Day - Get Out and Play!: Attention! Attention! Everyone, everywhere it's time for you to let your hair down, put on your comfy clothes and get ready to PLAY! Yes, that's right Takoma Plays and the Takoma Park Recreation Department has teamed up to present to you the Fourth Annual "Play Day" to be held on Saturday, September 22 at the Takoma Park Middle School (7611 Piney Branch Rd.) from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. (Rain or Shine) This event will have tons of fun activities for the entire family to enjoy to include the infamous Touch-A-Truck. To see a full listing of activities and performances please visit www.takomaplays.org. See you there!! (Recreation)

16. CDBG Application Deadline - September 24: The City of Takoma Park's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program provides funding for a wide range of activities focused on neighborhood revitalization, economic development, and improved community facilities and services. Grants are awarded on a competitive basis to community organizations and nonprofit entities. Deadline for submissions is 4:00 p.m. on Monday, September 24, 2012. Program Guidelines and FY14 Application Form are available at www.takomaparkmd.gov/ (Housing and Community Development)

17. Zumba Gold: Twenty-five adults, age 55 and older, were moving and grooving in the Zumba Gold workshop on Thursday, September 6. The Zumba Gold workout is the Latin inspired dance fitness program that makes working out fun, while providing active seniors with the opportunity to improve balance, flexibility and cardiovascular strength. The introduction workshop was so popular with participants that a six week class is planned for Fall 2012 at the Takoma Park Community Center. For more information, please contact Paula Lisowski, Seniors Program Manager, at 302-891-7280 or PaulaL@takomagov.org. (Recreation)

18. After School – Think Sports: The Takoma Park Recreation Department is offering some fantastic sports opportunities for youth when they get out of school. Sports include: tennis, flag football, and street hockey. The community center, located at 7500 Maple Avenue, is within walking distance from several schools in Takoma Park. For more information, please contact (301) 891-7290. (Recreation)

19. Morning & Afternoon Addition Program - More Spaces Added: In efforts to continually provide a convenient, cost efficient and comprehensive after school program for residents in the City of Takoma Park, the Recreation Department has added a few additional spaces to its afternoon addition program. Parents, if you are still in need and in search of quality after school care, we have just what you need. For additional information or to find out how to register please contact Dana Jackson or Lew McAllister at (301) 891-7290. (Recreation)

20. Fall Classes - Begin Next Week: Next week will be the start of fall classes offered by the Takoma Park Recreation Department. Our wide range of activities and programs gives us the ability to provide quality recreation to everyone. To register and view online, please visit www.takomaparkmd.gov/recreation. In addition to activities and programs, we have a fitness center at our Recreation Center (7315 New Hampshire Ave.) waiting on you to get your exercise on. For additional information, please contact the Recreation Department at (301)891-7290. (Recreation)

21. Community Outreach Officer (Pfc. Carla Magnaye): On September 7, Officer Magnaye hosted a Taser Educational Presentation. (Police)

22. Crime Report: The most recent Takoma Park Police Weekly Crime Report (August 31st-September 6, 2012) may be viewed online at <http://cathylevy.blogspot.com/2012/09/takoma-park-police-department-weekly.html>. (Police)

23. Traffic Enforcement: Officers conducted at least 96 traffic stops, which resulted in citations, four vehicle impounds, five Controlled Dangerous Substance (CDS) arrests from traffic, and two Driving Under the Influence (DUI) arrests from traffic.

August 30, 2012

- Cedar Avenue & Tulip Avenue (stop sign enforcement) – conducted a 60-minute detail and issued one State citation and two warnings.

September 3, 2012

- Flower Avenue & Garland Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued three State citations.
- New Hampshire Avenue & Holton Lane (no u-turn enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued no State citations.
- 6900-7100 block of New Hampshire Avenue (tag reader deployment) - throughout shift; four citations issued.

September 4, 2012

- Erskine Street and 13th Place (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one State citation.
 - 7500 block of Maple Avenue (school zone enforcement)- conducted a 60-minute detail and issued two speed violation, one State citation, and one warning.
 - Flower Avenue & Garland Avenue (stop sign enforcement)- conducted a 60-minute detail and issued five State citations.
- (Police)

24. Traffic Officer Stats (Pfc. Walter Smith):

Week ending 9/7/12

State citations: 8

Calls for service: 17

Reports: 4

Safety Equipment Repair Order (SERO): 2

Field Investigative Reports (FIRs): 3

Warnings issued: 6

Court time: 2 hours

(Police)